



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Reference: 6/2/26

MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

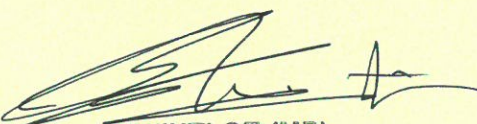
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES: QUESTION ★161 FOR ORAL REPLY

A draft reply to the above mentioned question asked by Ms Z V Ncitha (Eastern Cape: ANC) is attached for your consideration.


ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 12/04/2018

DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/~~AMENDED~~


NKWINTI GE (MP)
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 20/04/2018

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

FOR ORAL REPLY

QUESTION NO ★161

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 11 APRIL 2018
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO.13)

★161. Ms Z V Ncitha (Eastern Cape: ANC) to ask the Minister of Water and Sanitation:

What progress has his department made with the actual starting of building the Umzimvubu Dam in the Eastern Cape (details furnished)?

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REPLY:

To date the following has been achieved towards the milestone of construction commencement:

- Pre-concept design reports for the Ntabelanga Dam, Bulk Distribution System and Water Treatment Works (Phase 1) have been finalised.
- Concept designs have been completed.
- Modelling of the Ntabelanga Dam has commenced
- Detail Design on the Ntabelanga Dam, Water Treatment Works and the Bulk Distribution System is in progress and currently at 80% completion with the tender documentation at 20% completion.
- Work Packages has been identified which include the construction of temporary access roads, the establishment of a quarry and the construction of the Ntabelanga Dam Wall.
- Tender document for access road has been completed.
- Project Management Office has been established in Umtata.
- Stakeholder engagement through Provincial Working Group and work streams were initiated.
- A meeting was held between the Director Generals of Water and Sanitation, Transport and National Treasury to discuss possible interventions to fast track the Mzimvubu project.

The funding model proposes that Phase 1 of the project should be prioritised for immediate implementation using fiscal funding since it is a social scheme for underserved communities who cannot afford to pay for water tariffs. Due to budget cuts from the National Treasury, DWS could only allocate R 75 million for the 2017/18 against a budgetary requirement of R402m. The impact of this shortfall could not permit long term construction commitment for the implementation of Phase 1. It is clear that additional funding is required to ensure that implementation of Phase 1 proceeds.

A budget of R100 million is allocated in the 2018/19 financial year to facilitate the commencement of construction of the advance infrastructure. However, this budget is insufficient to cover both Engineering Services and Construction costs.

In general, gradual budget cuts from fiscal funding have resulted in the project not proceeding as planned.

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